

COMMISSIONERS APPROVAL

ROKOSCH *JR*

GRANDSTAFF *CG*

THOMPSON *AT*

CHILCOTT *gc*

DRISCOLL *WD*

PLETTENBERG (Clerk & Recorder)

Date.....December 21, 2007

Members Present..... Commissioner Jim Rokosch,  
Commissioner Carlotta Grandstaff, Commissioner Alan Thompson, Commissioner Greg  
Chilcott and Commissioner Kathleen Driscoll

Minutes: Beth Perkins

► The Board met for a Request for Commission Action regarding a grant application for planning workshops (Highway 93 corridor) continued from December 19<sup>th</sup>. Kierstin Lange met with the Board to discuss a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts in the amount of \$22,000 for Rural Design planning workshops for the community. Present also was Kristine Komer.

Kristine Komar gave some background information in regard to where the money comes from in Congress. She stated for the purpose of this request it is called the design grant. Commissioner Rokosch stated they would be looking at landscape design features with respect to the transportation corridors and design standards. He stated he does not believe design standards would come into baseline zoning until Phase II. Kristine replied yes, she believes that is right. At this point, the agenda of the workshop is where they are looking for advice. The workshop would not occur until after the award of the grant. They want regular people in the communities to have tools for the design. She presented a sheet of previous workshops to the Board so they may see how other counties have participated.

Kristine stated there is a \$10,000 match which they will provide at no cost to the county. She stated if they receive this grant and they do well; it puts them in line for a bigger grant over the next two years. Commissioner Rokosch asked if it would have the same match. Kristine replied she does not know yet but she hopes it will be a match option. She stated she does not want the County to put money in, but rather raise the money.

Kristine gave a sample agenda of the proposed workshops. She gave details of the agenda such as dinner with a key speaker, small group work and presentations. Commissioner Rokosch stated he hopes there will be interest in the development community. Kristine stated they are hoping for about 60 people. She suggested either NEA or another non-profit group to be an administrator of the grant. She stated she has met with Tom McNabb from the MSU community design clinic for high quality output and he gave Kristine an outline of design projects. She presented them to the Board to review. She discussed the proposed strategy to recruit people such as the background of the individuals. She stated they will target members in the development community.

Skip Rosenthal asked about a non-profit being the administrator of the grant. He stated the county role could be either the one who applies or they could send a letter of support of the grant application. Kristine replied there will be no administrative fee. She stated there are enough community people to carry this through. Skip stated it is his recommendation to have an MOU for the administration of the grant. Kristine and Kierstin concurred with Skip. Skip gave an outline of how the typical grant is administered.

Kierstin stated meeting with Tom was exciting. She stated he discussed having the students do the bulk of the work under supervision. Those resources would be available in the fall for the workshop participants without being a burden to the Planning Department. She stated the students would also be involved in collecting the data for baseline zoning. She further stated the students would help draft the agenda for the workshops to ensure they are in line with the county's needs. The idea is to get from Phase I to Phase II. Commissioner Rokosch stated in that time frame, under baseline zoning they will move into the formal hearing in July. At that time, they will talk about design and transportation plans. It has potential to keep things focused and have a mechanism for Phase II operations.

Commissioner Chilcott requested clarification of design standards. Kierstin replied the project would be focused on the linear corridor and planning to develop a "pleasing to the eye" landscape. Planning is about how things will look. Kristine stated it could be a little bit of everything. They will not know until an agenda is drafted for the workshops. Commissioner Chilcott stated it needs to be defined. Kierstin replied she does not know what the design standards will look like. The citizens and professionals in the community will decide that. Commissioner Driscoll stated she understands it's the citizens and the county coming together and deciding what they want it to look like. Kierstin agreed with Commissioner Driscoll. She stated when people get involved they guide themselves along to results. Kierstin stated Clarion Associates should be included in the workshops as speakers. Kristine stated Planning Director Karen Hughes made that suggestion.

Commissioner Rokosch stated the first steps have taken place with the focus groups. The next step would be these workshops. He stated they have already looked at the easement areas. This is a natural progression. Commissioner Driscoll commented on the transportation studies in Missoula County noting Ravalli County is a little behind. She would like to have a lot more input from the citizens. She discussed having planners and

citizens work together. The citizens of Ravalli County want to be taken seriously. Kierstin stated it would help to have people in the community be supportive. Kristine stated it is a trail for cars. She discussed developing economic needs and scenic areas along the corridor. Commissioner Thompson asked if anyone attended the MDOT workshops. He stated they did discuss the design along the corridor. His opinion is he would support the grant application as long as it is not a burden to the Planning Department.

Kristine stated they are looking for conditional approval to work as partners with the county with Planning Director Karen Hughes approval.

Commissioner Chilcott stated Phase I Zoning is set. He is concerned the corridor is going to be a distraction to the people involved in Phase I Zoning. He expressed his concern of the \$32,000 for a workshop. Kristine replied they need to provide transportation of the students, lodging, meals and tools. They will also need to pay for the expenses of the speakers and space rental and promotion of the event. Commissioner Rokosch added there is also the cost of the material preparation. Commissioner Chilcott asked if a schedule of expenditures has been drafted. Kristine replied not yet but they will get it to them prior to submittal.

Commissioner Chilcott stated this is good for the roles, responsibilities and relationships of all parties involved. We do not want any surprises. Then there is the outcome of the public process. Kristine stated that is where Karen Hughes would come in. Commissioner Chilcott asked if there is an outcome prediction. Kristine replied not yet but she will draft one and give it to the Board. Commissioner Chilcott stated he likes the thought; however he can not support anything that will distract from the Phase I Zoning. Commissioner Rokosch stated this is a mechanism to take the momentum and move on.

Commissioner Driscoll stated she would like to see a final draft before making any decision. Commissioner Rokosch requested office staff to schedule a decision for this grant on January 4<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. The Board concurred.